



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FEBRUARY 25, 2004**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MEXICAN MAN INDICTED FOR MARIJUANA POSSESSION**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a U.S. citizen living in Mexico was indicted by a federal grand jury today for being in possession with intent to distribute a large quantity of marijuana.

**Cesar R. Jara**, 45, of Juarez, Mexico, was charged in a single count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. **Jara** is a citizen of the United States who is living in Mexico.

Today's indictment alleges that **Jara** was in possession with the intent to distribute 1,000 kilograms or more of marijuana on Feb. 10, 2004.

**Jara** was arrested on Feb. 10, 2004, when law enforcement officers stopped the tractor/trailer he was driving for a commercial motor vehicle compliance check on I-44 in Webster County, Mo. While conducting a search of the trailer, they found 394 taped, wrapped bundles of marijuana in a false compartment, weighing a total of approximately 3,074 pounds.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robyn L. McKee. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and COMET (the Combined Ozarks Multi-jurisdictional Enforcement Team).

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)